

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, OAS, IA-ECOSOC

SUBJ: OAS: 10TH ANNUAL IA-ECOSOC MEETING- USDEL NO. 1

1. AT ORGANIZATION MEETING MONDAY AFTERNOON, URUGUAY (VEGH VILLEGAS) WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE 10TH MEETING AND THE US (ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL) NAMED THIRD VICE CHAIRMAN. A WORKING COMMITTEE WAS DESIGNATED TO DISCUSS THE US TRADE ACT, A SECOND COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE CEPICIES REPORT AND CIES REPORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND A THIRD TO HANDLE INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. PLAN AT PRESENT IS TO HAVE A PLENARY MEETING TUESDAY MORNING, AND WORKING SESSIONS TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND WEDNESDAY MORNING, FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER PLENARY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, AT WHICH ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL WILL MAKE STATEMENT.

2. DURING INAUGURAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY SESSION, INGERSOLL MADE BRIEF STATEMENT FOLLOWING MORE LENGTHY, AND GENERALLY CONCILIATORY STATEMENTS BY SECRETARY GENERAL GALO PLAZA AND CHAIRMAN RODRIGUEZ OF THE IA-ECOSOC.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY INDICATIONS FROM SOME DELE-

GATIONS THAT THEY INTEND A SERIOUS AND NON-CONFRONTATIONAL DISCUSSION OF THE TRADE ACT.

4. TEXT OF INGERSOLL REMARKS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE MR. CHAIRMAN:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND REMARKS. I AM HONORED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAD THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL. I AM FURTHER HONORED BY YOUR KIND DESIGNATION OF ME AS THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT OF THIS MEETING.

ALL OF US ARE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL IN THE OAS FRAMEWORK. WE ALSO APPRECIATE THE COMPLEXITY -- AND SOMETIMES CONTROVERSIAL NATURE -- OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THIS HEMISPHERE.

WE ARE MEETING IN THE CONTEXT OF NEW ECONOMIC REALITIES GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS INTERDEPENDENCE. ECONOMIC MALAISE IN THE DEVELOPED STATES IS FELT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD THROUGH A REDUCED DEMAND FOR RAW MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURED GOODS. THE HIGHER PRICES OF COMMODITIES AND FUEL CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC STAGNATION IN THE MORE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS.

A SUCCESSFUL APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF INTERDEPENDENCE WILL REQUIRE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL NATIONS -- PRODUCER AND CONSUMER, DEVELOPED AND LESS DEVELOPED, INDUSTRIALIZED AND AGRARIAN. EQUALLY IMPORTANT WILL BE A WILLINGNESS TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS, A REALIZATION THAT WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM ACCEPTABLE TO ALL NATIONS.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL MEETS TODAY TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF OUR HEMISPHERE. THE COOPERATIVE APPROACHES TO COMMON PROBLEMS WE ARE ABLE TO FASHION DURING THIS MEETING MAY WELL SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR WHAT CAN BE UNCLASSIFIED

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ACHIEVED ON A GLOBAL BASIS.

I RECOGNIZE, OF COURSE, THAT ONE OF THE MAJOR ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COUNCIL WILL BE INTERNATIONAL TRADE. I HOPE TO RETURN LATER IN THE WEEK TO ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT; WE ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONCERN AND YOUR RIGHT TO UNDERSTAND PRECISELY HOW OUR TRADE ACT OF 1974 RELATES TO YOUR NATIONAL INTERESTS.

IN CLOSING, MR. CHAIRMAN, I ALSO WANT TO CALL ATTENTION TO TWO AREAS CRITICAL TO OUR FUTURE DIALOGUE: HEMISPHERIC DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD. I HOPE THAT IN OUR

DISCUSSIONS WE CAN GET USEFUL EXCHANGES OF POINTS OF VIEW ON THESE ISSUES.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. END QUOTE INGERSOLL

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